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THE
ADVANTAGES
OF THE
Hanover Succession.

An Historical

ACCOUNT

OF THE

ADVANTAGES

That have ACCRUED to

ENGLAND,

BY THE

SUCCESSION

IN THE

Illustrious House of *Honover*.

Pro Rege sæpe, pro Republica semper.

PART I.

L O N D O N:

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ACCOUNT

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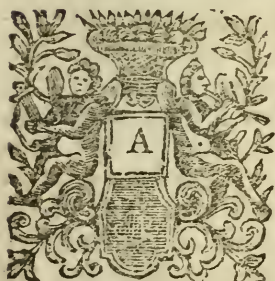
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ADVANTAGES
OF THE
Hanover Succession.



S the general Prosperity of every Country redounds to the Advantage of the several Individuals in that Community ; for the same Reason every private Man must be more or less a Sharer in those common Calamities that attend it : This I take to be the Foundation of that Curiosity, which prevails in most Men to enquire into the State and Condition of their Country, and into the Management of publick Affairs ; there being nothing more natural than to enquire into the Causes of those Events wherein we think our Interest is concern'd. Indeed, when Things run on prosperously, and every body enjoys his Liberty and Property in such a Latitude, as flows from a regular Administration, and when Men are convinc'd of the Capacity

capacity and Integrity of their Governors; this Curiosity is not a little rebated, and they are then inclin'd to acquiesce in those publick Benefits, without any further Enquiry into the secret Springs and Causes from whence they flow. But on the other hand, if it evidently appears, that the Interest of the Publick is entirely neglected, Trade given up and sacrificed, tho' it be the very Vitals of the Commonwealth, Foreign Wars engag'd in, tho' notoriously destructive of the publick Welfare, and all other Means and Arts labour'd, in order to impoverish and exhaust a Country: Such a *Crisis* as this will infallibly raise a Curiosity in the Injur'd, to pry into the Conduct of their Superiors, and the Causes of so much Misery; this they think their Sufferings give them a Right to do.

But the Misfortune is, that the Opportunity does not fall to every Man's Lot to discover the true Origin whence the Misfortunes of his Country do proceed; for Things of this Nature pass but thro' a few Hands, and those commonly none of the honestest, it being their Interest to conceal, as well as to act, the Crime; yet we find, that Things even of this sort have often been brought to Light, either thro' a Remorse of some of the superior Agents, or the Honesty of the Inferior; for sometimes it happens, that such have had the publick Good of their Country more at Heart than their own private Gains. And tho' Instances of this Nature are very uncommon, yet, I doubt not, but I shall be able to convince every true *Englishman*, and some false ones too, who by chance may have the Perusal of these Papers, that this is a Case which does not want a Precedent.

The present Condition of our Country, and the Miseries which now bear so hard upon us, to the utter Ruin of many late opulent Families; and
which

which, in the Event, will be the Ruin of many more, is, in my Opinion, worth our present Consideration ; but, as I have already observ'd, Enquiries of this Nature are generally conceal'd from the Cognizance of vulgar Eyes, yet it will appear, that Providence has so ordered it, that most of the Facts from whence our present Calamities have proceeded, are come to the Knowledge of a Person not disinclin'd to do his Country Justice ; and that the present Age may not be so far deceived as to attribute the Evils which we now suffer, to the bare Effect of Chance, I have thought fit to publish what follows, to shew, that on the contrary, all this has proceeded from regular Designs, in order to bring us *low, and to make us humble* ; a Virtue we are naturally dispos'd to, especially in some Instances, wherein the Exercise of it will be requir'd at our Hands : For it will appear, even necessary to the Designs of our present Superiors, that we should be reduc'd to our present, if not a much worse, Condition.

In this Enquiry, it will be necessary to look back into the first Sources and Origin of Things; and to recal some Facts, that have been long since buried to the World, and in some Measure, even to the very Actors themselves ; I shall therefore beg Leave to refresh the Memory of some, and inform the Judgment of others, with respect to certain Transactions that are now of above Twenty Years standing ; not that this is absolutely necessary to trace the Beginning of our present Misfortunes, but rather that the Reader may have some Account of the secret Intrigues and Passages that happen'd both before and after the Settlement of the Succession in the Illustrious House of *Hanover* : For, as these Papers attempt to give an Account of the Misfortunes that have accru'd to our Country,

since.

since his present Majesty's Accession to the Throne; the History will be more compleat, if on the one Side the secret Motives are represented in their true Light, which induc'd the late King *William* III. to make this Step; and on the other, what kind of Reception this Settlement met with at *Hanover*, when it was first concerted and established.

The least Pretender to the Knowledge of publick Affairs must be sensible how much it is the Interest of the States of *Holland* to have a Friend of theirs upon the Throne of *Great Britain*; and, if possible, even such a Friend as will prefer their Interest to our own: For nothing can be more evident, than that they are our Rivals in *Trade*, which is our *principal* and their *only* Support; and it is equally evident, that in such a Competition, it is impossible almost, but that *England* must prevail, unless some secret powerful Steersman be retain'd to interpose and to turn the Scale to their Side; and that the Effects of such an Interposition have frequently been felt here of late Years, the *Turkey* Company may particularly be consulted upon this Head.

The late King *William* was a Native of *Holland*, and not only so, but he had all those strong Passions and Respects for his Country, which a virtuous Prince and a good Patriot ought to have; nor do we find that his Love for that Country was in the least diminish'd, notwithstanding the Relation he stood in with respect to *England*.

This, I think, will abundantly excuse some Actions in that Prince, which *Englishmen* are apt to call criminal; whereas he, all the while, was a serving his own, not our Country; and this, I must needs say, I look upon as a very shining Virtue in him, which our Countrymen are generally destitute of. This

This artful Prince (for certainly such he was) considering his own mortal Condition, made Use of all those prodigious Talents he was Master of, in order to serve his native Country when he himself was dead and gone; and the State of Affairs in his Time presented him with a fit Opportunity to continue the same Services, which he had, with a great deal of Art, perform'd all his Life-time; for the false Fears of Popery here, among the Great, Vulgar, and the Small, and the Return of an injur'd Monarch among the wiser sort, who perhaps might labour under some Scruples that look'd like Guilt, were Materials sufficient in the Hands of so accomplish'd a Prince, in order to the Establishment of a Foreign Family in this Throne, to whom no Objections of this kind could be made. This he prudently judg'd to be the best Expedient, in order to continue the Advancement of a *Dutch* Interest; for he thought a Foreigner could have no such Love for his Country as to be strictly solicitous for its Interests, when the Consequences of such a Management must be against his own; and therefore such a Prince might easily be inclin'd to be cool in the Affairs of *England*, and to be willing to suffer a foreign Competitor to reap the Advantages of its Commerce; for by this Means he would effectually secure an Ally to support his Possession of the Crown, and at the same time reduce the *English* Nation to such a Condition by the Loss of their Trade, so as not to be in a Capacity to disturb such a Prince in the Prosecution of either his Foreign or Domestick Interests.

When Things are consider'd in this Light, and with these Views, no Family could appear so fit to answer all these Designs, as well with respect to Religion as Politicks, as that of *Hanover*.

When

When this Scheme was in Agitation, indeed the late Queen *Anne* stood in the Way ; but there was a sham *Plot* contriv'd to remove that Difficulty : For when King *William* went into *Holland*, in the Year 1700, that Affair was thus settled with the late Duke of *Zell* and the Princess *Sophia*, viz. That Queen *Anne* was to be taken up and sent to the *Tower*, upon the Account of a pretended Correspondence with her Father the late King *James* ; and this, without doubt, as the Tide ran at that Time, would have been a sufficient Inducement to exclude her from any Share in the Advantages of the Act of Succession. Further, there was actually a Committee settled at *Westminster*, consisting of such Men as could be rely'd upon, in order to ripen Measures how to bring the Princess *Sophia* into *England* ; and, as the State-Pulse then beat, K. *William* being unavoidably to enter into a War with *France*, the Dowry settled by the Treaty of *Reswick*, upon the late Dowager *Mary*, King *James's* Queen (which was 50000 *l. per Annum*) was to be appropriated to the Princess *Sophia's* Use, as well as *Somerset* House was for her Residence.

These are known Truths, and even the Vulgar were under some Apprehensions of Designs of this Nature against the late Queen ; nay, there are several who to this Day retain some Impressions of this sort : And the Party-scriblers of the *Tory*-side have given broad Hints of it ; tho' it is difficult to guess how they came by them, unless it was by the Means of the late Earl of *Rochester* : For he was the only Person, as far as I can find, of a different Inclination, that knew any Thing of this Affair. He, indeed, was forewarn'd of the Design, perhaps from the same Quarter that the Wind blows now ; and he, after the Accession of Queen *Anne*, being talk'd to upon this Subject, said, he was satisfied

tisfied of the Truth of it, but he thought the Affair too dangerous to be look'd into : However, it is a Fact certainly known to many now alive, to whom I may appeal, that the Minutes and Memoirs of this whole Affair as transacted by the aforementioned Committee, were surpris'd by a private Order of Council.

But the unexpected Death of King *William*, put an end to all these Projects and Contrivances : However, he so far prevail'd as to secure the Succession to a Foreigner, after the Death of Queen *Anne*, who was even then an infirm sickly Woman, and no way likely to have any more Children ; so that the Project was so well laid, that probably it might take Effect in Process of Time, tho' for the present, those that pursu'd the *Dutch* Interests were forc'd to be contented without it.

And thus we see upon what Foot, and in order to what Designs the House of *Hanover* was first establish'd here.

I shall now proceed to give you an Account of some Transactions at *Hanover*, just upon the Establishment of the Act of Settlement, whereby it will appear, that it was not out of any Love, or real Concern for the Interest of the *English* Nation, that even the House of *Hanover* itself accepted of this Succession, but purely to advance their own Interests abroad ; and in order to this, *England* was to be reduc'd to such a Condition, as to be subservient to it : This will appear to every Reader, by what I am now going to relate.

A little before the Death of King *William*, the late Lord *Macclesfield* was the Tool pitch'd upon to carry over the Succession Act, and to present it to the Princess *Sophia*, and the Prince her Son ; but they did not receive it with that Alacrity and Regard to the *English* Nation, as the People on this
Side

Side the Water were made to believe ; for there were several Difficulties rais'd which few Men expected. There was a Lady, a Creature of that Court, who was always listen'd to with Attention, who represented the *English Nation as a fickle People, very subject to revolt and plot against their own natural Princes, much more would their Inclinations be that Way given, when under the Dominion of a Foreigner, and especially of a Prince who they might suspect to have some Resentments against them for old Neglects and Injuries which his Family, by the Mother's-side, formerly suffer'd, and which were principally owing to their Obstinacy, and that no Foreign Prince whatsoever would propose to himself either Ease or Happiness at the Head of those People.* These were that politick Lady's Sentiments of us : But my Lord Baron *Berensdorff* interpos'd here, and being inclin'd to be complaisant to the fair Sex, readily granted all she had said for great undeniable Truths : *That the English indeed were a vile, rebellious, inconstant People, not worthy the least Confidence or Trust, yet that this Offer of the Succession was a Thing by no Means to be rejected ; for tho' the English were a People of no Veracity, yet they might serve very well as Tools to advance the Interests of the House of Hanover abroad, and which might perhaps be manag'd and brought to such an Height, as to put it out of their own Power to do any Mischief : That this Succession would give the Prince a Lustre in Germany for the present ; that if it took Effect, it would enable him to enlarge his Territories there ; that tho' there should be no Possibility to gain the Affections of the English, yet there was no room to doubt but a Prince of that House might easily make himself Master of their Purses, which would serve the Turn as well ; that they being a People divided among themselves into Factions, they were the more easily to*

be managed; that by seeming to countenance one Side, he might at his Ease oppress the other, and in the End drain both of their Money: Besides, this Succession would enable him to gain great Alliances in Europe, and particularly he would find himself courted by the Two contending Houses of Christendom, Austria and Bourbonne, and both, in their Turns, would be forward enough to give him their Protection. After some Debates of this kind, it was at last concluded, that the Succession should be accepted.

These were the Motives, and these the Views, which at that Time prevail'd, and caus'd the Rejoycings of that Court. And now the Question will be, Whether his present Majesty, since he is settled in the Throne, and his fast Friends, have not all along acted with an Eye to this Scheme? But before I enter upon this, some Things are necessary to be hinted at, which pass'd during the Interval of the late Queen's Reign, and before this Settlement took Effect.

When the Princess *Anne* came to the Throne, the House of *Hanover* was always jealous of her Conduct, with respect to the Interests of that Family. But whether this was owing to a Consciousness of the Practices above-mentioned, wherein they were concern'd as Principals, in order to deprive her of her Turn in the Succession, that they might attain their Ends the sooner; or whether they were sensible of some old Grudge of a much ancients standing, is, what is not very material to enquire into; yet very certain it is, there was no good private Understanding between that Family and the late Queen; for there were always *Hanoverian* Spies planted here, to watch all Motions, as well of publick as private Transactions. These Jealousies produc'd an eager Desire in those abroad, and in their fast Friends here at home, to have the

Princess *Sophia* and her Grandson, the present Prince of *Wales*, brought over; so that they might gain upon the Affections of the People, in case any Attempts were made contrary to their Interests.

My Lord *Macclesfield* was again pitch'd upon to put himself at the Head of those who were for bringing this Affair about; but, as it happen'd, even some of them who were thought to be most inclin'd to join in this Enterprize, when it came to be thoroughly canvass'd, appear'd but very cool in the Prosecution of it; for there are a considerable Number of that Party, who are distinguished by the Name of *Whigs*, that have always had quite different Views from those of a Foreign Succession, notwithstanding their outward, even vehement, Professions, the true Designs of these Men tending towards a Republick. Indeed, they pretended, at the private Conferences of that Party, that the Princess *Sophia* employ'd few or none but *Roman* Catholicks about her, and that it was probable she would continue her old Servants after her Arrival here; which would not only bring an Odium upon the Succession itself, but also upon those Persons that promoted it; yet this was but a Cloak to cover their other real Design. My Lord *Macclesfield*, who was a trusty Promoter of this Family, saw (with the Eyes of others at least) into the Aims of some of the Party, and objected it to them; but as he had no Facts to support what he said, it pass'd for nothing, and so the Affair in some measure dropt. Indeed, the vulgar *Whigs*, who meant what they spoke, were very warm in it; but when any Party, tho' otherwise ever so considerable, are cunningly deserted by their Leaders, they can be of no very great Consequence.

I must needs own, I think the Republican *Whigs* are more in the Interests of their Country, than the others;

others ; for no doubt if such a Scheme of Government prevail'd, it would be more eligible, and better for the Interest of *England*, than the Dominion of a Foreigner ; because such a Government could have no Views of a *publick Nature*, but what are for the common Good ; there not being the same Temptations for such Men to sacrifice their own Country to aggrandize any other Nation.

Those *Whigs* that strictly adher'd to the Scheme my Lord *Macclesfield* was employ'd to pursue, tho' they fail'd in their main Project, to bring the Princess *Sophia* and her Grandson over, yet they so far influenc'd Affairs, as to procure a Regency to be established to secure the Kingdom for the Use of the House of *Hanover*, upon the Death of the late Queen ; not but that even this had a much greater Effect than was expected from it by the publick and private Opposers of the first Proposal.

We are now to proceed to that Period, when all these Contrivances were to have the desired Effect. Upon the Death of Queen *Anne*, the Generality of the Kingdom, as having an inherent Affection for new Things, turn'd their Eyes to *Hanover* to be supplied with a Sovereign. The *Tories*, who at that Time rul'd the Roast, were always suspected, tho' very unjustly, of a Disaffection to that House ; nay, King *George* himself was not only jealous of them in particular, but also of the *English* Nation in general ; and therefore he staid in *Hanover* and *Holland* above six Weeks, in order to see what Turn Affairs would take here, before he ventur'd to set his Foot upon *English* Ground. But being at last encourag'd by the repeated Invitations both publick and private of the leading Men of both Parties, he conquer'd his Irresolution.

Upon his Arrival in *Holland*, the States took Car to instil such Notions into him, with respect
to

to their common Interest, as were very inconsistent with that of *England*, tho' they were no other than such as he had before entertain'd ; and Pensionary *Heinsius* was the Man that negotiated this Affair : He told him, that he must not look upon *England* as the Place of his future Abode, but rather as a Place to be us'd so long as it could be preserv'd for the Advancement of their common Good ; that notwithstanding the Invitations he had received from some of the Heads of the Tory side, they were Persons not at all fit to be employ'd ; because, by that Means, he would put it in their Power to out him at their Pleasure ; that the Generality of them had already laid Schemes in favour of his Competitor ; that Revenge, and their own Security, would oblige the Whigs to come into the same Measures : But if on the other hand the Whigs were employ'd, all that the Tories would aim at, would be, to solicit the French Interest in favour of the Pretender ; but that France being at present poor and low, they would not be so forward in complying with their Desires : Besides, the French Court knowing the Tories to be Men of no Resolution to carry on such an Affair, they would rather make their Court to him. And in case the Tories should raise a Rebellion, he knew he was secure of the Emperor and Dutch for Troops upon all Exigencies : That this would give him a Handle to keep a standing Army for the future, to make them submit, upon all Occasions, to any Loads he should think fit to lay upon them : That the only Way to keep himself in the Saddle, will be to drain them of their Wealth, and to cut off as much as possible, all Opportunities of Trade, and thereby to hinder them from a speedy Recruit ; that the English were a restive stomachful People when in Prosperity ; but they were mean dispirited Souls, when reduced to Want : That they would only whine, and make a little Noise in their private Cabals, which was all he
had

bad to apprehend from them, when in such a Condition: That by strengthening the Dutch with the English Trade, he only secured himself the more in the Possession of his Crown, and which would so far enable him to advance his Interests in Germany, that one Day it might happen, that a Prince of his House might sit at the Head of the Empire.

Big with these Resolutions, and these Schemes, he arriv'd in *England*; where he had no sooner settled himself, but immediately he left no Stone unturn'd to procure foreign Alliances to strengthen, not the *English* Interest, but his own Possession of the Throne; as if the one were inconsistent with the other; being full of the former Jealousies of and Prejudices against us.

The Regent of *France* having particular Views of his own at that Time, was thought the fittest Person to make a good Brother, and a firm Ally of; for they were to be a mutual Security to one another, to enable them to execute their several Designs and Projects.

The next Project to secure himself, and carry on his Schemes, was to involve us abroad, by sending Fleets into the *Baltick* and *Mediterranean*, to drain us of our redundant Humours, as well in respect to Men as Money; and tho' by the *Act of Settlement*, the *English* were to be engag'd in no foreign War, but wherein the national Interest was concern'd, yet this was over-rul'd, and the *English* have been oblig'd to engage in Wars, not only wherein they were not concern'd themselves, but in Wars evidently contrary to their Interests, and which could have no other View but to break their Trade, that it might fall into the Hands of the *Dutch*; of this Nature was that with *Spain*, and the other in the *North*.

My

My Lord *Townshend* and Mr. *Walpole*, we all know, were a few Years ago in disgrace; but the true Reason has hitherto been in some measure conceal'd. They, at that Time, had some remaining Bowels of Compassion for their Country, and were against such Projects which they knew would at last terminate in its Destruction; and it was for this Reason that they were, at that Time reputed as Persons not fit to be employ'd. But upon cooler Thoughts, when they afterwards saw that their Country must be ruin'd, whether they had a Hand in it or no, they have since fortified themselves with new Resolutions, and on Recollection thought it convenient to be Sharers in the publick Booty.

There was another Project started, in order to support King *George* with Money, tho' very detrimental to the *English* Nation in general, and to the *East India* Company in particular; and this was by concerting with the *Emperor* to establish an *Ostend* Company to interfere in our *East India* Trade. Two and a Half *per Cent.* was the Price agreed upon, and which they are to pay, in Consideration of this Priviledge, whereas our Company pay Fifteen *per Cent.* so that the *Ostenders* are hereby enabled to undersell them, at least Ten in the Hundred, and be sufficient Gainers too. There were several rich Merchants in this City, who treated with Baron *Bothmar*, to pay certain Sums of Money to King *George's* Use, for a Connivance in the Enjoyment of this Trade; and it will be found, as it hath hitherto been, that this Grievance will always want a Remedy, till Providence has so order'd it, as to put the *English* upon such a Foot, as to be able to pursue their own Interest.

This Project answers two great Ends in the *German* Scheme, *viz.* To impoverish the *English*, and, at the same time, enrich the House of *Hanover*.

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There was another Scheme put in Execution, which tho' it did not fully answer the Designs of the Projectors, yet it had in some Measure its Effect; and this was, to declare War with *Spain*; whereby his Majesty not only propos'd to enrich himself, but also to ruin our *Spanish* Trade, and consequently to impoverish us. The latter Part of this Project our Merchants, as well as the People in general, feel the Effects of; but the Affair of getting of Money did not so well succeed; for it was also concerted to send twelve Ships of War to intercept the *Spanish Galleons* in the Gulph of *Florida*; but by some Means or another, his Catholick Majesty got Intelligence of it, and took proper Methods to prevent its succeeding.

The Interest of this Country was undoubtedly sacrificed by this *Spanish* War, for we could have no Motives to be at Variance with that Nation; but we have many that ought to incline us to use all honest Arts we can to keep them our Friends. The most advantageous Trade we have, is allow'd to be the *Spanish*; and if so, could *England*, if it were not influenc'd by foreign Councils, be so far wanting to itself, as to quarrel with the only People whom we have all the Reason in the World to endeavour to oblige? Certainly, if it had been necessary for us to be concern'd in the *Spanish* Affairs, it had been our glaring Interest to have declar'd in their Favour; this had effectually riveted us in the good Graces of that People, and so far secur'd that Trade, that it had been out of the Power of our Competitors to undermine us. The wiser *Dutch* saw this, and took Measures accordingly; but it is our Misfortune to be influenc'd by Councils that are none of our own, and to be govern'd by those that have Designs upon our Liberties, our Fortunes, and every Thing else that is dear and valuable.

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But our Condition is such, that these Schemes are too lingering, too full of Delay, to do our Business, there must be something concerted more quick in the Operation; the King wanted Money to carry on his Affairs abroad, and the *English* are too long Masters of their own Fortunes: And therefore some other more effectual Means, than those above-mention'd, must be found to answer these Ends.

A noble Peer, that died not long ago, was known to have as great a Share in the King's Affections as any Man living, and no doubt of it he deserv'd no less; for there was nothing which he found the King inclin'd to, but he immediately came into it, tho' Father, Brother, Sister, Country, or what else may be reputed most dear and valuable to Man, stood in the Way.

About three Years ago, this noble Lord, as far as his Words could be recollected, express'd himself to the following Purpose, at a private Conference held at Baron *Bothmar's* House, where their *South Sea* Scheme was first concerted.

The King's Affairs (said this noble Lord) *are in such a Condition abroad, that a great Sum of Money is requisite to settle them. For in the first Place, if we consider the untractable Temper of the Czar, we must by some Means or another bring him to a more easy Disposition; and this must be done, either by giving him such a Sum of Money as will incline him to come into the King's Measures; or, if this fails, we must endeavour to prevail with the Port to fall upon him, which you know cannot be attempted without a vast Charge.*

*The King is also advis'd to purchase new * Dominions contiguous with his own, to accomplish which a considerable Sum must be rais'd; this will enable his Majesty*

* Macklenberg, Wismar.

Majesty to make a considerable Figure in Germany ; this will bring all the Princes of the North into his Measures ; and there will then be no Fear of a new War in those Parts, unless the King should find it his Interest to promote it.

A considerable Sum must also be rais'd and advanc'd to King Augustus, the better to enable him to make Poland hereditary ; for if this can be compass'd by the King's Means, he will always have it in his Power to keep France within Bounds, and to hinder it for the future from forming any Alliance prejudicial to the common Cause : Tho' we are indeed secure of that Interest at present, having been somewhat condescending to them in the Affair of the Quadruple Alliance.

The Emperor is so thoroughly link'd in Interest with the King, that we are certain he will enter into any Treaty or Measures with him to the Advancement of their common Good.

As for the Spaniards, it is true we have quarrell'd with them, but that Breach may easily be made up, for the Fleet which we have destroy'd were only old English and Dutch East India Men, not fit for any great Service ; and we may easily repair that Loss by proposing to build them an equal Number of Ships in our own Docks under the Notion of Ships built for the Mississippi Company in France : This will serve to blind our People here at home, and at the same time put us upon good Terms with Spain.

To answer these Ends, a considerable Sum of Money must be rais'd by one Means or another. The Chancellor of the Exchequer has examin'd all the Projects that have been laid before him, and he says it is impossible, by any new Tax, to raise a Fund of Ten Thousand Pounds per Ann. which is such a Trifle, that it will not answer his Majesty's Travelling Expences into Germany. Yet if we make Use of this South-Sea Scheme, which my Lord the Baron, and

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his Majesty have propos'd, I make no doubt but we shall be able to raise Money enough to answer all the King's Necessities; and all Men will readily come into it, because of the View they have to augment their Fortunes. The South Sea Company have already offer'd their Service, and the leading Men among them have promis'd to be under Direction; and it is not to be doubted, but by a good Understanding between the King and that Company, he may be easily furnished with some Millions of Money, to put all these projected Schemes in Execution.

We find the Regent of France has, by such a Step as this, brought the Treasure of that Country into his own Coffers; and what can prevent us from doing the like? And by this Means we shall at once lay a sure Foundation to enable the King to be Master both of the Purse and Persons of his Subjects.

Here we see the Aggravation of all our Misfortunes: The *South Sea Scheme*, we see, was concerted to raise Money, not to discharge National Debts, but to support foreign Interests, which do not in the least relate to *England*; I shall pass this very remarkable Speech by, without a Comment, for indeed it needs none. We are not to wonder, that the Success of former Crimes should make those that committed them, bold enough to engage in more desperate Undertakings; for having tried their Strength that Way, they are inspir'd with a Confidence which makes those Designs seem easy to be put in practice, that to others appear attended with almost insuperable Difficulties.

When this Scheme came to make its Appearance upon the Stage, there were several Representations made to this noble Lord in particular, of the ill Effects of it. It was demonstrated to him, that it would in the End prove to be the Destruction of
Credit,

Credit, both publick and private; that if notwithstanding this, they were resolv'd to carry it, in Opposition to all Considerations whatsoever, the raising the Stock above Two Hundred, would infallibly prove the Ruin of the Company. His Lordship's Answer was, *That the King's Necessities were to be preferred before any Consequences that could be objected; that he was satisfied the King could not subsist unless this Project was promoted to the utmost Pitch it possibly could bear.*

When it was further objected to his Lordship, that the general Ruin it would bring along with it, might happen to be detrimental to the publick Peace, and occasion a general Disaffection; create abundance of Fears and Jealousies, which would perhaps end in an open Rebellion: His Lordship upon this, immediately replied, *That when they had all the Money in the Kingdom in their own Hands, which by this Means they would have, there was nothing of this Nature to be apprehended, but what might in the End turn to the King's Advantage; for they had an Army ready, and they might have what further Supplies they pleas'd from abroad; that he would put himself at the Head of them, and that he doubted not but he should be able to put a Stop to any Attempts of that kind; besides, that this would give the King a fair Opportunity to make himself absolute, when it appear'd that his English Subjects were not to be depended upon.*

Whoever was truly acquainted with this noble Peer, must be very sensible that he always meant what he spoke, and that he did not want Resolution to execute what he had once engag'd in; we have seen him live to accomplish some Part of his Project; we have seen it have those ill Consequences which were expected from it and if they remain

remaining Parts of it are not yet entirely come to pass, no body knows how soon they may.

To convince the World that the like Policies have prevail'd, since the Death of this noble Lord, I shall take the Liberty to communicate what I learn'd from a worthy Gentleman lately arriv'd from *Germany*; who discoursing there with a certain Prime Minister, about the Design of the *South Sea Company*, in carrying on a Trade to *Greenland*, according to the Proposition so much talk'd of; this Gentleman argu'd, That such a Project, if it should succeed, might so far prejudice the *Dutch*, as to induce them to break their Alliance with his *Britannick Majesty*. To obviate this Objection, his Excellency read a Paragraph out of a Letter he receiv'd, the Post before, from a certain Minister in *England*; which Paragraph, with two more, the Gentleman had the Favour to transcribe, in order to satisfy his Friends in *Holland*: They are in Substance as follows:

———*Our Neighbours ought to take no Umbrage at what the South-Sea Company did, in relation to the Greenland Fishery; for neither the King nor his Friends will attempt any Thing, in earnest, of that kind, to their Prejudice.——We are under a Necessity of making a Treaty with Spain, in order to amuse them, as they have amus'd us all along; and the better to assist our fast Friends of the House of Austria; for tho' we should not perform any Stipulation made with the Spaniard, we do not doubt but we shall find Excuses enough in this Country from the Jealousies and Emulations of the contending Factions, to come off from such Engagements with sufficient Reputation.——In a little Time, you will find what I hinted in all my Dispatches will prove true: The Act of Indemnity, and some late Acts, are Instances*

stances of it ; tho' some, indeed, murmur at them, yet all are silenced, and dare not go to Law, or even open their Mouths, unless it be over a Bottle in their private Clubs ; so that I hope, in less than a Year more, the King will be in a Condition to make all Parties dance after his own Pipe.

If you recollect each Passage contain'd in these Papers, I believe you must think they discover such a Scene of Iniquity, and such a Plot against the Liberties of *England*, as no History can parallel ; but what is most surprizing is, That Natives of this Soil can put their helping Hand, and contribute, as much as in them lies, to their Country's Ruin.

I am sensible in whose Hands a great Part of the Money, lent upon *Stock* and *Subscriptions*, is lodg'd ; and I beg Leave to assure my Countrymen, who have not observ'd it, that the Riches of the Nation are so dispos'd of, as to contribute to its further Ruin and Slavery. The Government is sensible, that it cannot depend upon *English* Troops to compleat their Designs, and therefore there is no Prince with whom they have enter'd into a firm Alliance, but that they have contracted for a certain Number of Troops to be in a Readiness upon all Emergencies ; not only to subdue the Liberties of the People, but also to curb and cashire our Soldiery ; for it seems whoever is of *English* Growth, or not thoroughly initiated among them, is upon the weak Bottom of suspected Credit ; and the Truth is, they will trust such Men no longer than till they can do without them ; because they are afraid, lest they may happen to have some Remorse about them, some Remains of Love for their Country.

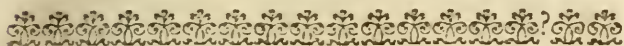
But there is sufficient Care taken, that when his Majesty's Designs are ripe for Execution, he will
be

be under no Necessity to depend upon the Fidelity of the *English* Soldiers. The present King of *Prussia* has near Seventy Thousand Men, at this Time, in Pay; now I should be glad to know of those Gentlemen, who are acquainted with the Revenues of that Crown, and the Extent of those Dominions, how far his *Prussian* Majesty is able to keep such a Number of Men in continual Pay. I am sure, according to the best Computation that I have been able to make, that his *Prussian* Majesty cannot constantly maintain an Army of Twenty Thousand Men; and if so, I am sure every considerate Man must conclude, that some other Potentate is concern'd in the Maintenance of them: Besides, it is evident, that such an extraordinary Number of Troops can be of no Service to that Prince, since he is at Peace with all the World; and further we find, that those Neighbours, who may seem to be most concern'd, take no Umbrage at his extraordinary Armament, being sensible by whom, and with what Design they are maintain'd.

These are the Facts, and these are the Schemes I have, *at this Time*, thought fit to acquaint my Countrymen with, before they are involv'd in an utter Ruin. I am no Party-Writer; I neither prefer the Interests of *Whig* or *Tory*; there are in both those Parties Men so notoriously vile, as no Country was ever curs'd with the like; nor are there, on the other hand, wanting in both, Men of the strictest Honour and Regard for the publick Good. What I say, I know. These little Distinctions amongst us are propagated by the real Enemies of us all, by Men that have Designs upon our common Liberties: For I beg Leave to assure the World, that the Question now is not whether *Whig* or *Tory*, Church of *Englandman* or Dissenter,

Dissenter, is to prevail, but between *English* Liberty and foreign arbitrary Dominion.

If after this Warning, Party Humour prevails, before publick Good, the Evils design'd against us will be our common Punishment.



P O S T S C R I P T.

I Have forgot to mention one Thing very material to be known, which was transacted upon the late Peace concluded at *Utrecht*. His present Majesty, then Elector of *Hanover*, and his *German* Ministers, were under some Apprehensions, that the Affairs of *England* would take such a Turn, at that Juncture, that it would be no easy Matter to unravel them; and Baron *Bothmar* was employ'd to influence the several Powers then united in the Grand Alliance, not to come into the Measures of *England*, but to stand it out to the last, in Opposition to all amicable Inclinations. These Transactions had such an Influence upon our Affairs, that tho' the *English* Ministry bore up against all Opposition, yet this visible Partiality in the next Successor to the Throne, was such a Weight upon all their Measures, that all the real Hardships which this Nation labour'd under, from that Peace, were only the necessary Consequences of the violent Opposition-it met with in *Germany* and *Holland*, by the Interest of the House of *Hanover*.

There are several other dangerous Contrivances now in Agitation among the *Germans*, which the
Times

Times will not bear to be made publick ; and I fear the Nation will sooner feel than know the Evils design'd against them : Nor is it consistent with my present Safety, at this Juncture, to give the World any more particular Discoveries.

F I N I S.



An Historical

ACCOUNT

OF THE

ADVANTAGES

That have ACCRUED to

ENGLAND

BY THE

SUCCESSION

IN THE

Illustrious House of Hanover.

Ne quid falsi dicere audeat, ne quid veri non audeat.

CICERO.

PART II.

L O N D O N:

Printed in the YEAR M^dCC^{xxii}.



THE
ADVANTAGES
IN THE
Illustrious House of *Hanover*.

THE Design of these Papers is to give some further Account of that Family which now reigns over us, and of their several Projects and Contrivances, in order to aggrandize themselves, and raise their Fortunes to such a Height, as none of their Ancestors (who were no more than petty Princes of the Empire) had any Hopes or Prospect of.

Indeed, when Men endeavour to advance their Fortune or Honour, by just and laudable Means, they deserve the Praise and Approbation of all Men; but when every Virtue is sacrificed, to feed Ambition, and no Stone is left unturn'd, in order to that End, we can do no otherwise than look upon such Designs with the same Contempt and Indignation, as we would do upon those of publick Robbers, and common Disturbers of Mankind.

It is a Piece of Justice which every Writer must comply with, who will attempt to give an Account of the *Hanoverian* Family, if he is true to the Laws of History, and particularly to that Rule laid down by *Cicero* in my Title Page, to represent them as Persons who have established no other fundamental Principle but Ambition for the Government of all their Actions.

I shall then, in the first Place, give the Reader a View of them in their original Condition, before they arrived to that Height and Grandeur, which they have now attained to, and this I do with a Design to encourage, even the meanest of our *English* Nobility, not to despond, but to be firmly satisfied if they stick at no Principles of Honour or Virtue, that some of their Posterity may one Day sit down and be number'd among the great Princes and Rulers of the Earth.

The House of *Hanover* is the youngest Branch of the *Wolfenbüttele* Family, formerly known by the Title of Dukes of *Brunswick*, who were never reputed of any Consequence in the Empire, even before the Division of that House into the three Branches of *Wolfenbüttele*, *Zell*, and *Hanover*: For in our * *Henry* the Third's Days, this Family was so (even before it was subdivided into so many Branches) poor as to be oblig'd to petition that Prince to allow their favourite Minister a Pension, which, when granted, amounted to five Marks a Year for his Maintenance; nor was their Condition much mended, even so late as Queen *Elizabeth's* Reign; for the then Duke of *Brunswick* made it his humble Suit to that Princess, to obtain some small Pension to supply his Wants, which we find by a Grant under the Privy Seal, publish'd
in

* Rymer's *Fœdera*, Vol. I. p. 308, 309.

in Rymer's *Fœdera*, she complied with ; the Words were these : † *Sciatis quod nos de gratia nostra speciali, per advisamentum & Consensum Concilii nostri, Considerationibus nos specialiter moventibus, dedimus & concessimus, ac per presentes damus & concedimus, charissimo & perquam fideli amico Nostro Otthoni Duci Brunsewicensi, & Lunenburgensi, quandam Annuittatem &c. Trecentarum & Septuaginta quinque Librarum Legalis Monetæ nostræ Angliæ, &c.* ' Know ye, that of our special Grace, with Advice, and Consent, of our Council, and for good Considerations us thereunto moving, we have given and granted, and by these Presents do give and grant, to our dear faithful Friend *Otto* Duke of *Brunswick* and *Lunenberg*, a certain Annuity, or annual Pension, of Three Hundred Seventy and Five Pounds of our lawful Money of *England*.'

There are two Things very remarkable in this Grant ; the One is, that the Queen dignifies the Head of this House with no other Title than that of her *Friend* ; she doth not vouchsafe to call him so much as her *Cousin*, which is a common Stile used by Princes towards those of the first Rank and Quality ; and therefore we may well conclude that this Family was not reputed in her Reign, so honourable as we are now perswaded to believe they were.

The other remarkable Conclusion to be drawn from this Grant is, the Poverty and Meanness of their Condition at that Time ; for, if they had been of any Consequence to her Interest abroad, the Sum had either been greater or none at all ; our poorest *Yea* and *Nay* Pensioners in the House of Commons would despise such a Salary as this
is ;

† Rymer's *Fœdera*, Vol. XV. p. 578.

is ; they would rate their Country at a much greater Value, than to sell it for such a Trifle ; and therefore we must conclude, that this Annuity was a merciful Subsistence granted to support an inconsiderable Family.

I do not find that they made any Figure in *Germany*, until it was about the Middle of the last Century ; for they were then made the Tools of *France* to diminish the Power and Grandeur of the House of *Austria* ; and they were the constant Pensioners of that Crown, until the late happy Revolution here in *England*. By this Means it was, that they began to enrich themselves, and were able to make some Appearance at the Fag End of the *French* Faction in *Germany*, in whose Pay they continued until the late King *William* brought them over by the Influence of *English* Money (which they have had a particular Veneration for ever since) into the Projects of the *Austrian* Family, and their Adherents. Being thus a little elevated above themselves, by the Strength, first of *French*, and afterwards of *English* Money, they began to make some Noise in the World, and to appear upon several Occasions as a Family of some Consequence ; but before this Period, they were much upon the Level, both in Fortune and Blood, with our Nobility of middle Rank. Indeed, they have Reason to glory in one Accession of Blood that was made to their House in the Person of the late Princess *Sophia* *, who had the Honour to be descended, by a Female Alliance, from the Royal Family of *England* ; yet it is well known, that the Honour of a Family depends principally upon the Male Line : Besides, there are several of our Nobility,

* D. of B. whose Husband was slain in the Service of the *League*. Winw. p. 374.

lity, who have as much, if not more, Reason to be proud of their Descent from the Blood Royal, than the House of *Hanover*. When any noble Family intermarries, either the one side or the other, beneath themselves, it is a great Stain upon their Honour, which I take to be exactly the Case before us ; yet when only the Male makes a false Step of this kind, it is generally forgot in the next Generation, and the Children of such a Father inherit all his Honours, without any Regard had to the Ignobility of the Mother ; but when a Woman acts in this Manner beneath herself, her Children are not reputed in a Court of Honour, to inherit but a small Share of Nobility, beyond what is derived from the Father.

But there is yet a further Blemish that particularly diminishes his *Britanick* Majesty's Claim to a noble Birth ; for those who are acquainted with the secret History of the House of *Hanover*, are sensible that there was a more than common Suspicion, that the late Princess *Sophia* was very amorously inclined, even much beyond what was consistent with her Honour. That the late Duke her Husband, who was a quiet good-natur'd Man, had one of his Generals quartered upon him, who often rid in his Saddle, when he went out a Hunting, or was otherwise called from Home, is not doubted : And it hath been a common Observation, that none of that Duke's Children resembled him.

The outward Conduct of that Princess, as well as what the King's *Hanoverian* Subjects insinuate upon this Head, puts these Facts beyond Dispute ; for it is most certain, that she express'd herself very oddly upon several Occasions, particularly her frequent Custom to drink her own Health in a Bumper, by the Stile of, *The best in Christendom* ;
besides

besides several other Expressions which your nicer Palates would have been offended at.

I am sorry that I have been obliged, even so much as to hint at an Affair of this Nature, too tender indeed to be touch'd upon, as well with regard to his *Britanick* Majesty's Honour, as to that of the *British* Nation in general; for certainly there can be no greater Reflection cast upon any Country, than to say, That the Prince who governs it, is of a spurious Original; and truly, I believe I should have conceal'd this Part of the History, were it not for the Motto in my Title Page, which I have consulted upon this Occasion; and I find, by the Rule laid down there, that I could not well avoid taking Notice of this Intrigue (upon which a great deal more may be said) without drawing down upon myself the Scandal of being a partial Writer.

The Course of the History requires that I should now give some Account how this Family proceeded in their Measures to get into Power. The late Princess *Sophia*, having an intriguing Head, had nothing more at Heart, than to aggrandize her Posterity, by concerting Measures to procure an Union of the Duchy of *Zell* and *Hanover*, in the eldest Son of her House, tho' there was a Contract of an ancient Standing between those two Families, that their Honours and Estates should never be united in the same Prince; but notwithstanding this, that Princess was resolv'd to sacrifice all the Laws of Honour, as well as private Property, to compass her Design; and therefore she consider'd, that if she could prevail with the Duke of *Zell* to marry his Mistress, a *French* Woman, by whom he had a Daughter, who was above six Years old; that by the Laws of the Empire, the Child would be legitimated in virtue of such a Marriage, and
in

in consequence of this, she should find it practicable to procure a Match between her eldest Son and this young Lady.

This Woman, afterwards Dutches of *Zell*, and Grandmother to his Royal Highness the Prince of *Wales*, was the Daughter of a private Gentleman of *Poitou* in *France*, who came into *Flanders* along with *Madam Tremouille*, as her Waiting-woman, where the late Duke of *Zell* happen'd to meet with her, and was so taken with her Person as to fall in Love with her : This poor Woman was easily prevail'd upon to leave that honest Way of Life which she then led, to gratify the Duke's Appetites ; and, as it hath since fallen out, to supply *England* with Princes ; for he had by her that Daughter, some Years before Marriage, who is now Wife to his *Britannick* Majesty.

The Artifices which were then used to bring the Duke into this Scheme were, first to secure that Prince's Prime Minister *Berensdorf*, whose Business it was to remove all Difficulties which might lie in the Way to prevent the Duke from complying with this Design ; and in the next Place, it was contriv'd to get the Duke invited to *Hanover* to an Entertainment, a Thing frequently practis'd by those two Families ; and at the same time the Child was procured to be brought thither, as if it were, by Accident : When Things were thus prepar'd, an *English* Lady, who was in the Plot, took the Child to play with, and made use of that Opportunity to run out extravagantly in praise of her Beauty ; nor did she want others, who were prepar'd to second her in these Encomiums, which soon drew the Duke's Eyes to fix upon the Child, who presently joined with the Company in their Sentiments of it, and said it was a *Princely Child* ; upon which the Princess *Sophia* reply'd, That he

was very much in the Right in saying so, because it was his own. The Duke was, upon this, at first a little surpriz'd, for he had never seen her before, at least to take any Notice of her ; but when he found the Jest true, he persevered in his former Opinion, and appeared to be not a little fond of his new Daughter.

The Duke being thus taken, the Princess, and the rest of the Company, made use of their united Persuasions to incline him to marry the Mother, representing what Pity it would be that so fine a Creature, when she came to Maturity, should be branded with Illegitimacy : At last, the Duke, not a little pleas'd with the Infant, was prevail'd upon to comply with their Desires ; but first, he procur'd the Emperor *Leopold* to make the Mother a Countess of the Empire : These were the Means made use of to legitimate his Royal Highness's Mother, which, because they seem a little extraordinary, I have thought it necessary to communicate them to the Reader.

The Princess *Sophia* having, by these Arts, obtained her main End, she had no very difficult Task to perform afterwards ; for in a few Years she accomplish'd a Marriage between her eldest Son his present Majesty, and the young Lady who was thus legitimated ; whereby she obtain'd that desirable Union of the Dukedoms of *Zell* and *Hanover*, tho' this Proceeding was directly contrary (as I have already observ'd) to a fundamental Contract of a very ancient standing between the two Families.

This Alliance enraged the second Son of *Hanover*, Prince *Maximilian*, whose Right it was to inherit the Dukedom of *Zell*, that he rebell'd against his Father, and was supported in it underhand by the King of *Denmark*, and other Princes ;
but

but the Enterprize being discover'd, before it was truly ripen'd, the late Elector got General *Mulke*, and the Prince, secur'd. The General had his Head cut off, but the Prince, who was some time afterwards releas'd by powerful Intercessions, went to serve the *Venetians* in the *Morea*, turn'd *Roman* Catholick, and is at present in the Emperor's Court, where he hath the Reputation of being a Person of more Sense and Honour, than all the Survivors of his Family.

Treachery and Injustice, tho' they often meet with Success, yet we frequently find that they meet with Rubs and Disappointments. This Marriage being thus effected, and Prince *Maximilian's* Pretensions being by this Means defeated, it was the Pleasure of Providence so to order it, that the greatest of Evils, as I may justly call it, befel that Couple in whose Persons those two Dukedoms were united; an Evil that will reflect Dishonour upon themselves and all their Posterity: For it afterwards proved, that this young Lady's Appetites were too violent to be confin'd to one Man; and an uncommon Familiarity was soon after observ'd between her and Count *Coningsmark*, a *Saxon* Nobleman, who us'd to keep his Winter Quarters at *Hanover*. Their Amours had their full Swing for some time; but they were at last discover'd, and the Count's Motions were watch'd so narrowly, that he was taken almost in the very Act; for he was found in her Bed-chamber, where he was murder'd, and the Lady had the horrid Satisfaction of being shut up with her dead Gallant for the Space of twenty-four Hours, before she was removed to the Place of her present Confinement.

This notorious Stain upon the Family, being thus brought to Light, it created no small Uneasiness at the Court of *Hanover*; nor could his
present

present Majesty be prevail'd upon to own his Lady's Children, until the late King *William* made such an Acknowledgment, a necessary Article, in order to the Settlement of the Succession to the Crown of *Great Britain* in this Illustrious House.

The Noise of this unlucky Discovery carried along with it many disagreeable Effects, particularly the Prince of *Anspach*, her present Royal Highness's Father, was at first by no Means to be prevail'd upon to match his Daughter into a Family that had receiv'd so great a Stain upon their Honour; but the Prospect he had of King *William*'s Designs, with relation to this House, prevail'd with that Prince, as well as the dazzling Glories of a Crown did with the young Princess, to overlook all Difficulties, and to submit to this ignoble Union.

This Family having, by the Arts and Contrivances already mentioned, raised themselves far above their original Condition; their next Project was to procure yet further Honours, by being made one of the Electoral Houses of the Empire; but they consider'd, that this could not be done without the Concurrence, and even Assistance, of the *Roman* Catholick Powers, as well as by the Connivance and Encouragement of King *William*. The latter they were sure of, but how to bring the former into their Measures was the main Point to be consider'd; The Duke of *Hanover* therefore applied himself to that intriguing and projecting Society the Jesuits, in order to bring this Affair about, and one Father *Wolf* was the principal Agent employ'd, not only to influence the Emperor, but also to perform the same Office with the rest of the Catholick Princes of *Germany*. This Reverend Father's Endeavours had the desir'd Effect; for this new Acquisition to the House of *Hanover*

was

was easily obtain'd by his Interest, and by that of his Society. The main Objection made against this new Promotion was, that it would make the Power of the Protestants in *Germany* too considerable; but this was soon obviated by a Promise made by the late Elector, that his present Majesty should declare himself a *Roman* Catholick; which he certainly would have done, had it not been for the Hopes that they soon after entertain'd to have the Succession to the Crown of *England* settled in this Illustrious House: And we are not to wonder that his Majesty's Religion has so much of the Prince in it; for his Mother, the late Princess *Sophia*, took Care to educate her Children so as to be susceptible of any Religion, which should afterwards appear to be the most for their Interest; for that Princess being ask'd by a certain Person, why she suffer'd her Daughter's Education to be so much neglected, as to be incapable to give any Account of her Religion, further than what Nature dictated? Her Answer to this was, *That she had not yet determin'd, whether she should marry her to a Roman Catholick, or to a Protestant.*

The House of *Hanover* having thus obtained the Electorate; hath not as yet thought fit to comply with one of the main Conditions on which it was obtained; tho' his Majesty seems to act upon this Head, as honourably as it is consistent with his other Affairs; for he hath all along been true to the Catholick Interest, even so far as to be the main Instrument in banishing the King of *Sweden*, the prime support of the Protestant Religion, out of *Germany*; nor has he been wanting in point of Gratitude to his fast Friends the Jesuits, even since he came to the Crown of *England*, for he has built them a College at *Hanover* with our Money, which was finished but lately, and he has endow'd
it

it with large Privileges. The main Business of these Fathers is to instruct the Youth of the Country; nor have we any Reason to doubt but he will do us the same Favour, as soon as he is fully settled to his Mind, and has made himself * *Master of his own Actions*, which in plain *English*, signifies an arbitrary Power over the Lives and Fortunes of his Subjects.

That his Majesty's Affairs are influenc'd by the Members of this Society, is a Thing which the *Hanoverian* Ministry, I am sure, cannot deny; for it is well known to those Gentlemen, that the Jesuits are now employ'd by our King in most of the Courts of Christendom, as his Agents and Spies; and their principal Business is to have a strict Eye upon the *English* Ministers that are now employ'd abroad.

The good Catholicks of *Ireland* already feel the happy Influences of his Majesty's Government; for they have not, for many Years, receiv'd so large a Share of Court Favours, as they now enjoy; and we are not to doubt, but where these holy Fathers of the Society wield the Scepter, they will soon convince their Creatures, that it is no Iron Rod, but pure Gold with respect to them.

To confirm what I have written upon this Head, I shall be so free as to transcribe a Passage out of the *Monthly Mercury* for November 1692, who is a Writer that comes from the other Side of the Water, and therefore he is of some Credit as to Facts that happen'd in his own Time, and even at his own Door.

‘ + ’Tis now some Months ago that we told you
 ‘ there was a Discourse of erecting a new Electo-
 ‘ rate,

* A Saying used among the *Hanoverians*.

† *Mercury*, Vol. III. p. 421.

' rate, in favour of the most Serene House of *Lun-*
 ' *nenburgh*. And we further hinted, that most
 ' People were afraid that the Duke of *Hanover*
 ' would meet with Obstacles, and that they would
 ' use their utmost Endeavours at *Rome* to dissuade
 ' the Emperor from having any such Thoughts ;
 ' in a Word, because this Prince is a Protestant,
 ' there was great Probability that the Pope would
 ' oppose this new Election ; nevertheless *the Pope*
 ' *has given his Consent for Reasons unknown to us,*
 ' *and which we are not permitted to dive into ; but*
 ' *they, from whom the Opposition was least expected,*
 ' *are the Persons that start the greatest Difficulties.*
 ' Several Princes and States of the Empire pre-
 ' tend, that the Emperor has no Right to erect a
 ' new Electorate, that Things ought to be left al-
 ' lone as they are, and that the fundamental Laws
 ' of the Empire are not to be violated, which or-
 ' dain, That the Colleges of the Cities ought to
 ' give their Suffrages upon such Occasions, and
 ' in a Word, that they ought not to take away a
 ' Member from the Colleges of the Princes.'

I must own it is not very material what such a
 Writer as this says ; yet a Man may see how com-
 mon Opinion ran at that Time ; and it was cer-
 tain, that the chief Promoters of the House of
Hanover to the Electorate, were the Court of *Rome*,
 and their close Adherents, and that it was the Pro-
 testant Powers only who took Umbrage at this
 new Promotion, for the Reasons I have already
 hinted at.

I shall proceed but a very little further at this
 Time upon the private Affairs of the House of
Hanover, and of their several Projects and Intrigues ;
 which are in some Measure foreign, with respect
 to the particular Affairs of *England*. I therefore
 design to close up this Account with a short Hint
 upon

upon their Amours ; for they seem to have had a Taste in this Way peculiar to themselves : Their Mistresses seem to be hereditary, and they are loath to crack a Commandment out of their own Kindred. His Majesty is certainly a very great Instance of this ; for as the old Countess of *Platin* was the late Elector's Mistress, so the Daughter has acted in the same Capacity to the present. This last Lady has a very pretty Daughter, and not unlike the King, whom he fell in Love with the last Time he was in *Germany* ; even to that Degree, that he would fain have brought her over with him into *England* ; but her suppos'd Father could by no Means be prevail'd with to comply with his Majesty's Desires ; and therefore, just upon his coming away, he attempted to satisfy his Appetite by Force ; but the Count having an Intimation of it, got his Friends and Tenants together, and gave them Orders to shoot any Man that should attempt to come and offer Violence to the fair Lady. Upon this a Scuffle arose ; but the Lord *Stanhope*, foreseeing the Consequences, prevail'd with the King to desist from that Enterprize : And this was the Foundation of that Plot, which made so great a Noise in our News-papers, as if the Czar of *Muscovy* had employ'd a Party to intercept his Majesty in his Return from *Hanover* into *Holland*, when he last came from thence.

The present Duchess of *Munster* is indeed an Instance that contradicts this Account of the *Hanoverian* Amours ; for so far as it appears, either by Tradition or History, she is the first of her Family that has acted in the Capacity she is commonly reputed to do in the House of *Brunswick-Hanover* ; but there being something very particular in this Lady's History, I shall not omit the following Account of her.

This

This Gentlewoman is descended from an ancient, but very poor Family in *Saxony*, and she was brought into *Hanover* by Baron *Bothmar*, who recommended her to Mrs. *Zwarts*, the Elector's Mistress, and being but meanly cloath'd, she gave her two new Suits, and made her her own Chamber-Maid, and soon after procur'd her to be a Maid of Honour to the late Princess *Sophia*: But she had not been long at Court before his Majesty fell very much in Love with her; at which, her first Patroness, Madam *Zwarts*, took pet, her Nose being put out of Joint; for she soon came to be reputed as prime Mistress to his then Electoral Highness. The Noise of this new Amour was so great, that the *Predicantor*, or Minister, being influenc'd by Mrs. *Zwarts*, refused the now Madam *Munster* the Sacrament at the *Easter* following, until she could clear herself from this publick Scandal. Upon this there was a grand Council held, in order to concert proper Measures how to get over this new Difficulty; and it being found, that his Majesty could not master his Affections, it was at last resolv'd, that a Consistory should be call'd of Civilians and Divines, before whom all the Vouchers were laid relating to the Adulteries committed between his Majesty's Wife, and Count *Coningsmark*, which, after a due Examination, that venerable Body of Men concluded, that they had Grounds sufficient to declare his Majesty's former Marriage void, and that he was at Liberty to marry whom he pleas'd. It was reported afterwards, that he was actually marry'd to Madam *Schulemburgh*, as she was then call'd; at least their cohabiting together was look'd upon to be a Marriage of Conscience, which is what is usual in that Country: However, this is certain, that she was soon after admitted to the Sacrament, notwithstanding it was

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publickly,

publickly known, that she continued to hold the same kind of Correspondence with his Majesty which she had formerly done.

Since he came to the Crown of *England*, it has been likewise reported, that this Marriage was confirm'd a few Years ago at *Hanover*, by a certain *Western English* Bishop, who is himself known to be a Well-wisher to the Mathematicks; and this was done with a View, as it is suppos'd, that he might, in time, be a good Voucher, to satisfy the *English* Nation of her being the King's lawful Wife: For you must know, that this Lady is big with the Expectation to be crown'd Queen of *England*, and her Children to be declar'd legitimate Descendants from the Blood Royal.

But lest the Reader should conclude from this one Instance, that his Majesty degenerates, either from himself or Family, I must beg Leave to affirm, that there are Vouchers sufficient to remove this Doubt: For you must know, that the Duchess of *Munster's* Sister, *Madam Inhausen*, is known to have had a considerable Share of his Majesty's Favours, as well as the Duchess; nor do the King's two Daughters by these Ladies go without their Turns in his Majesty's Seraglio. One of them, indeed, has been lately married to Count *d'Allippa* since his Arrival from *France* last Summer, with whom he had Thirty Thousand Pounds, *English* Money, as a Portion, so that this young Lady is otherwise provided for; but we may perceive by this, his Majesty's paternal Care, and tender Concern to supply the Wants and Necessities of all his Children and Favourite.

I have done with those Affairs that relate particularly to the House of *Hanover*; and I doubt not but my Countrymen, who have been always jealous of the Honour of their Princes, will easily conclude,

conclude, what they are to expect from the Government of Princes so well descended as his Majesty, and his Royal Highness. I therefore proceed now to consider our own Affairs, which have been transacted since his Majesty's Accession to the Throne, and which have been omitted in the former Part of this History.

It will not be improper in the first Place to relate a Piece of secret History, omitted before; whereby it will appear how indifferent the late Princess *Sophia* was, with regard to the Succession under the strict Limitations mention'd in the Act of Settlement; and therefore she got that Party who seem'd to adhere strictly to the Interest of her House, to raise a Clamour against the late Queen and her Ministry, as if they acted under-hand in favour of the PRETENDER. For which Reason, as she pretended, she told her Adherents, that she and her Family would make an Offer to the Parliament of resigning their Pretensions to the Crown; * accordingly she nominated the late Lord *Wharton*, *Sommers*, *Hallifax*, and another who is still alive, tho' now in a different Interest, to negotiate

* That the Reader may be better confirm'd in the Truth of what is here asserted, I have transcrib'd Part of a Letter which that Princess wrote to an *English* Lady, in *August*, 1713, upon the same Occasion. *The Queen had got rid of the Gout, and I find I have got it, 'tis the only Inheritance I am to expect from her; for you are not the only Person that advises me not to rely upon her Promises, or those of her Ministers. I am satisfied she designs to make an Assignment for her false Steps; but I am resolv'd to be beforehand with her, and let the World see that my Right is as well grounded as hers; if she is resolv'd to do Justice to her Brother, it shall not be at my Expence; I shall quit my Pretensions into the Hands of those that gave them me, and so be off with Honour.*

tiate this Affair in both Houses ; but the Death of the late Princess *Sophia*, as well as that of the Queen, put a Stop to this odd Enterprize.

This Scheme, however strange it may appear, yet it carry'd along with it two dangerous Views ; for no-body could imagine, but that there must be some great Plot in Agitation, which must induce the House of *Hanover* to make this extraordinary Renunciation ; and the other was, that in case they saw the Queen and Parliament resolved to call home the PRETENDER, they might hereby give an early Opportunity for the fast Friends of the Illustrious House to make their Court to that Gentleman, and by the Help of their Money and Dissimulation, to acquire the Management of him, in order to find out Means, in a few Years, to send him a packing, as his Father was serv'd before him ; for the Princess *Sophia* urg'd, that such a Revolution, in favour of her Family, would enable them to act without any Controul, and oblige the *English* to come into their own Terms, having no Competitor to deal with ; whereas they are now ty'd down to the narrow Rules of a mixt Constitution. I appeal to a surviving Lord, as to the Truth of this Affair.

By this it appears, that it was the Intention of this Family to break thro' the Act of Settlement, even before they accepted of the Crown, if it could be executed by any probable Scheme ; they having no Notion of any other Rule in Government but what is arbitrary : Nor, indeed, has their Conduct, ever since, given us the least room to doubt, but that they persevere in the same Opinion ; nay, they are so stedfast herein, that his Majesty would not have staid thus long amongst us, were it not for the Promises that have been made to him, and the Prospects he has of being an absolute Monarch ;

Monarch ; and every Man that appears for his Country, against these Schemes, is treated as an Enemy to the *Hanover* Succession, tho' they have always appear'd, in a lawful Way, to have acted in its favour. My Lord *Cowper* is an eminent Instance of this ; for this great Peer has, by his whole Conduct, prov'd himself to be a true Friend to this Family, while their Designs appear'd consistent with the Liberty and Property of his Fellow-Subjects : But this Nobleman has since been obliged to quit his Share in the Administration, in order to exert those extraordinary Talents he is so happily bless'd with, in the behalf of his Country, and in opposition to the united Force of King, Lords, and Commons, aided, abetted and directed by Foreigners, already determin'd to impoverish and enslave us. Our present Condition is something extraordinary, for there is no single Instance to be found in our History, wherein those three Estates have joyn'd in an Interest (as will appear by several flagrant Instances upon the Journal of both Houses) directly opposite to that of the People.

This noble Lord's Behaviour has indeed given the *Hanoverian* Ministry, and their Devotees, an Occasion to bespatter him, after a very unjust and scurrilous manner, both in their Letters to one another, and in their publick Conversation ; which I omit here, as looking upon the *Acta Eruditorum Lipsæ* to be the fittest Common-Shore in *Europe* to convey such *Hanoverian* Scandal to the World.

There are some *Scots* Noblemen who are also Sufferers upon this Account ; for they declared themselves attached to the Prince's Interest, and advised to oppose the *Hanoverian* Schemes ; but as soon as the *Hanoverian* Ministry began to perceive this, and that his Highness began to affect
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Popularity, they immediately laid before him the bad Tendency of his Proceedings, and that he was an Enemy to his own Interest; for his Majesty's Aims were no other, than to advance his Family, by making them independent of Parliaments; and that he, of all Men, should rather assist than hinder his Majesty's Designs, it being his Interest to lessen the Limitations they lay under, since it was his Turn next to succeed to the Crown.

These Reasons prevail'd with his Highness not only to desist from adhering to these noble Lords Sentiments, but also to discard them from his Favour; for the *Hanoverian* Ministry, as well as the late Lord *Stanhope*, that *Hanoverian* Tool, represented the *Scots* in general, as an insatiable beggarly People, and that where they got Power, they were insupportably insolent.

Another very manifest Instance of the *Hanoverian* Designs upon our Liberties, is the notorious Encouragement that was given to the late *Scots* and *Preston* Rebellions, when both might have been prevented by the early Notice the Court had of this rash Enterprize; yet by the Influence of *Hanoverian* Councils, all were suffer'd to embark in it, who were that way inclin'd, the *Hanoverian* Ministry being sure that their foreign Allies would enable them to come off Conquerors; and by this Means they would have the most plausible Pretence to keep up a standing Army, to carry on their main Design of introducing an arbitrary Government into this Kingdom: But it so fell out, that none engag'd themselves in that Insurrection besides a few hot-headed People; so that they had not Pretences sufficient to support what they aim'd at, which was to bring such a foreign Army into the Nation, as might answer all their Purposes; tho' I have often heard them since express their
Sorrow.

Sorrow in their private Conversation, because they did not make Use of that Opportunity to put their Designs in Execution.

However, King *George* was further confirm'n in his Opinion, by these Insurrections, that the whole *British* Nation were a Purse-proud treacherous People, and therefore he apply'd himself in earnest to find out new Measures, whereby their haughty Spirits might be humbled. The best Expedients, soon after thought upon for that Purpose, were the concerting Alliances with such foreign Powers as the People of *England* us'd to entertain the greatest Jealousies of, as well with regard to Religion as Politicks; but before this could be put in Execution, it was necessary to do some publick Act, whereby those foreign Princes were to be convinc'd, that King *George* was warm in his Resolutions to serve them at the Expence of the *British* Subjects, without any Regard had to the Consequences of their Resentments: In pursuance whereof, *Guineas* were, by Royal Proclamation, reduced to somewhat less than the intrinsic Value, especially such as were little or nothing wore.

The Damage sustain'd by this Reduction to the *English*, *Scots* and *Irish* is incredible, because Foreigners were hereby encouraged to make use of this advantageous Opportunity to carry our *Guineas* over into *France*, *Germany* and *Holland*, where they were soon after observ'd to be as common as they are here in *England*. Indeed there were plausible Reasons at that Time given for lowering our Gold, which might in some Measure justify such a Proceeding, if the Foreign Exchanges had been in our Favour; but as they were not, we are bound to hear, feel and see the Calamities of the Distress'd daily increasing, and no Answer to be made to that very material Question,
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viz. What is become of our circulating Cash? This was done on our Part by way of an Earnest to *France* and *Holland*, &c. of what our future Behaviour towards them would be: Nor did our *Hanoverian* Court rest here, but they found it necessary to engage in their Favour (if possible) the Ecclesiastical, as well as the Civil Interest of all the Roman Catholick Powers, by a Toleration of those of that Religion in this Kingdom. This was done to satisfy the Emperor, that by this Means his Majesty was resolv'd to secure himself on the Throne; for his Imperial Majesty was always suspicious, that the *English* Ministry had some underhand Dealings with the Southern Popish Powers to the Prejudice of the House of *Austria*; and therefore the *Hanoverian* Minister there, to obviate these Objections, wrote a Letter to the following Purpose some time ago to the Agent at *Vienna*, in order for him to communicate the Contents of it to the Chancellor of the Empire. " His
 " Imperial Majesty has no Reason to distrust the
 " present Ministry, for they will come into any
 " Measures that will tend to inhanche the Debts of
 " *Great Britain*, not out of any Respect they
 " have to our Master, but to enrich themselves by
 " impoverishing the Crown, in order to render
 " Monarchical Government odious to the People:
 " This has been their constant Maxim; but his
 " Majesty can make his own Use of them to obtain his Ends, it being in his own Power to dis-
 " place them at Pleasure, there being others that
 " are forward enough to run his Majesty's Lengths
 " should they scruple it.

" The Faction at present attach'd to the Chevalier's Interest, which his Imperial Majesty is apprehensive to be supported by the Southern Popish Powers is of no great Consequence: For
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“ their Measures will, in all Probability, be easily
 “ disconcerted, since the King intends to give the
 “ Roman Catholicks in his Dominions here, the
 “ same Protection and Privileges, that he does
 “ those in his own Country, their Number being
 “ too inconsiderable to give us any great Uneasiness;
 “ and even those in *Ireland*, where they are
 “ most numerous, may easily be gain’d by granting
 “ them some Privileges with relation to their
 “ Trade, as well as Religion, which the *English*
 “ in all Reigns have refused them; so that we
 “ doubt not, but their Interest will oblige them to
 “ become his Majesty’s best Subjects.”

This, I presume, will easily lead *Englishmen* into a new Way of thinking: For by this they may perceive, why *Walpole* and *Townshend* were formerly discarded, but they have since been taught Humility and a great Amendment of Manners; and we may further find the Reason why Abbot *Strickland* made such a Bustle, when he undertook to bring the Roman Catholicks to swear Allegiance to his present Majesty, promising them not only Protection without paying double Taxes, but also a free Toleration of their Religion throughout the King’s Dominions. But it so happen’d, that the Papists were stiff, and the Abbot lost a Cardinal’s Hat, which was to have been his Reward for performing this extraordinary Enterprize; and lastly, we now see with what Views the Roman Catholicks in *Ireland*, are at this time allow’d greater Privileges than they have for many Years enjoy’d.

The next thing I shall present the Reader with, is some Account of a Misunderstanding that has not long since happen’d, between his *Britannick* Majesty and the King of *Prussia*, which indeed has been very propitious to the Liberties of *England*. I need not tell the World how this Quarrel

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turns to our Advantage, because what is said in the former Part of the History, with relation to *Prussia*, is a sufficient Testimony of that.

Some will have this Breach to be owing to a Design, which his Majesty had of owning his Marriage with the Duchess of *Munster*; but in this they are mistaken, for that Matter was made up by the late Lord *Stanhope*, by Vertue of a round Sum of *English* Money. But this Difference was really occasioned by a Disagreement between Baron *Ilgen* his *Prussian* Majesty's Minister and Baron *Berensdorf* about the several Schemes of their respective Masters.

The King of *Prussia*, who is a rash, injudicious, but a very ambitious Prince, had sometime ago a Design of making himself King of the *Romans*; and likewise, under a Pretence of serving the Protestant Cause, of making the Empire for the future alternative, *i. e.* one time in a Protestant, and the next in a Popish Family. Baron *Ilgen* represented his Master's Views of this kind in very pressing Terms to *Berensdorf*, intimating, ' That he doubted not but his Master's Father-in-Law would not only assist him with all his Power, both as Elector and King of *Great Britain*, but also that he would engage *France*, by the Means of the Duke Regent, to be of his Side, against the House of *Austria*, that old inveterate Enemy of the House of *Bourbon*.' But in Answer to this, *Berensdorf* expressed himself to the following Effect: ' That his *Prussian* Majesty ought not to think of such Projects untill his *Britannick* Majesty was firmly settled, to his own Heart's content, upon the Throne of *Great Britain*. That as yet he was no more in Effect than half a King: For what the *English* call their Parliament, does pretend not only to influence,

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' but even to guide and direct his Majesty's Acti-
 ' ons, whether he will or no. That he must have
 ' some Time to diminish at least, if not to destroy
 ' their Power : That it was his *Prussian* Majesty's
 ' Business to wait untill this could be brought
 ' about, and to assist the King in it. That when
 ' this Point was gain'd in *England*, his *Britannick*
 ' Majesty might then be enabled to induce both
 ' *France* and *Spain* to countenance and support
 ' his *Prussian* Majesty in the Prosecution of his
 ' Measures. That the King had a Design to
 ' oblige those two Crowns to comply with his
 ' Measures, by granting to the first some Conces-
 ' sions, with respect to their Trade, and by re-
 ' pairing some Damages done them in *England*, in
 ' a former Reign ; that he propos'd to surrender
 ' to the latter a Place or two, which are of no
 ' Consequence to the King's Interest, but are very
 ' beneficial to *Spain*, when in their Hands.'

How this remarkable Conversation will relish
 here, I cannot say ; but I am very well assur'd,
 that it was disagreeable enough to the Court of
Prussia ; for that Prince look'd upon these, as only
 mere Excuses to cover King *George*'s own Designs,
 of making Prince *Frederick* King of the *Romans*,
 at the Expence of *England*, which is the Reason
 given in *Germany* for their not permitting him to
 come into *England* ; and his *Prussian* Majesty has
 continued his Jealousy ever since upon this Score.

This affords us new Light into the boundless
 Ambition of both Courts, and we find the Prote-
 stant Part of *Europe* are design'd to be made Tools
 to support it ; the Power of Parliaments, and the
 Act of Settlement are to be broke through ; the
 little Trade gain'd from *France* by the Treaty of
Utrecht to be given up ; *Mardike* in all likeli-
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be rebuilt for them, and *Port-Mahone* and *Gibraltar* to be surrender'd to *Spain*.

The *English* Nation have little Reason to despise these Contrivances of their Enemies, since we have neither Allies abroad, nor Virtue nor Valour at home, to defend our Liberties. I would not have them think these Things to be mere whimsical Chimeras, hatch'd in some malicious Brain, purely to frighten them, but as real deep laid Designs, contrived by cool diabolical Heads, in order to aggrandize one or two ambitious Families at the Expence of Millions; and, which is worse, determin'd to be put in Execution, as soon as proper Tools, villainous enough, can be procured. However, it is to be hoped, that very few will be found bad enough to assist these foreign Harpies in the Destruction of their Country, but if there should,

-----Is there not some chosen Curse,
Some hidden Thunder in the Stores of Heaven,
Red with uncommon Wrath, to blast the Man
That owes his Greatness to his Country's Ruin.

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The Reader has been already, in some Measure, instructed in what we are to expect from this Family; and how they have, from time to time, involv'd us in foreign Wars; created Differences between us and those Countries to whom we are most oblig'd; which could be done with no other View, than to ruin our Trade, and so impoverish us both in our Purfes and Spirits, and thereby to weaken us in our Inclinations to engage, to any Purpose, in Vindication of those very valuable Things, our Laws and Liberties, which they have a fixed Purpose to destroy. For untill
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his Majesty can make himself a complete Master of these, it is thought to be a Thing impracticable for him to carry on with Advantage, his ambitious Projects abroad. We all remember that the pretended Design of the late Quadruple Alliance was to preserve the Peace of *Utrecht*; tho' the Stipulations with regard to *Italy*, contain'd in that Treaty, were directly contrary to this Alliance, as also against the known Interest of *England*. For certainly it is none of our Interest that *Sicily* should be under the Dominion of the House of *Austria*: The *Germans* in general having been observ'd to be an idle, lazy, proud People, and are always fatal to Trade, wherever they get any Footing; for they impose such exorbitant Customs upon all Commodities to support their own Luxury and Grandeur, even so far as to render all Trade with their Dominions almost impracticable.

But his Majesty's and the Emperor's Designs by this Alliance, being now in some Measure answered, the King has since endeavour'd to prevail with his Imperial Majesty, to turn his Arms towards the North to curb the *Czar*, and to countenance his Designs in *Germany*; and particularly, he is very pressing with him to lodge a considerable Number of Troops in *Flanders* to be in readiness to secure his Attempts upon the Liberties of the *English*; nor is it to be doubted, but that we shall hear more of this *German* Negotiation, as soon as his Majesty can spare Money to bestow among the Imperial Ministers, to incline them to support his Enterprizes: But least this should fail, and the Emperor should happen to be jealous of his *Britannick* Majesty's growing Power, and ambitious Designs, the *Hanoverian* Ministers, and their Adherents, have otherwise provided against all Mis-carriages of this kind; for our old standing Corps
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are to be kept up, and not to be recruited with *Englishmen*, but are to under-hand fill'd up with Foreigners from *Germany*, and all our Officers are likewise to be sent a packing, when things are brought to a Crisis; so that we are to have an Army of Foreigners in our own Bowels, ready to give the Blow, before that we are sensible that our Enemies are amongst us; and the vast Number of Foreigners, which are even now seen in our Streets, and who can give no satisfactory Account of their Business here, if Things were examined into, is (even to an ordinary Capacity,) a sufficient Testimony of the Truth of what I now say.

I cannot omit on this Occasion addressing myself to the *English* Part of the Army, which, for the Safety and Interest of *England*, I could wish were much greater than I fear I shall be able to find them. Their own Actions make it appear to me but too evident, that my Apprehensions are true: We remember an *English* Army were once the Champions of our Liberty, can they now sit still and basely look on to see it trampled upon? That Army that for these Thirty Years last past defended the Liberties of *Europe*, shall they now tamely submit to become the Instruments of the Slavery of their Country? Certainly they can't forget that the Hands of several among them took the Yoke once from our Necks, and shall those very Hands agree to put it on again? Let them think what they have been, and not give Posterity occasion to mention them with Infamy; I would advise them therefore to redeem their own Honour, to gain the Love of their Country, the Estimation of the Brave, and the Prayers of good Men. Let them make the World sensible that they have been once deceived; and let them see that they are able to pour out Vengeance upon those

those faithless and treacherous Heads that ruin'd and betray'd their Country. I would not have them reflect too long upon this Advice, least it should be too late for them, from what hath been already said, to exert their Virtue and Courage in our Favour; for should they suffer themselves to be quite extinguish'd by the Means already hinted at, their Repentance will then bring us no Relief; it will be too late for them to attempt it, and it will only convince us of their Cowardice and Baseness.

After what I have here said to the Gentlemen of the Army, I would not have the *English* Gentlemen who are generally good-natur'd, and too secure in their own Integrity, despise this Warning; for they must consider that those that have a false Game to play, are found more industrious to watch Opportunities for their Advantage, than those who remain secure in their own Innocence; and I doubt not, but if Things run on in the present Channel, and when the Plots of the *Hanoverians* are ready for Execution, they will soon be made sensible of their Mistake.

The City of *London* has the Misfortune to be look'd upon, by the *Hanoverian* Ministry, as a main Obstacle to their Hope for arbitrary Dominion; and therefore the Citizens are sure first to fall a Sacrifice to their ambitious Designs; for the *Londoners* may rest satisfied, that there will be no Arts left unpractis'd, in order to distress them in every Instance that can be thought upon. The *Barracks* and the *New Bridge* have indeed miscarry'd, not out of Regard to them, but because they werè ill-tim'd; but our Enemies hope that the Time is near at hand, when not only these, but other more considerable Articles will be obtain'd, to compleat the Ruin of that rich powerful Body.

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There is one main Point which the *Hanoverian* Schemes drive at, highly necessary for the *English* Nation to be acquainted with, especially those that are concern'd in the Publick Funds. It is an Observation, grounded upon Experience, that no Country can subsist long in the Payment of Taxes, if they exceed what that Country gains yearly by its Trade; but this is more particularly the Case, when most of the Money, thus raised, is spent abroad: And therefore his Majesty's *Hanoverian* Ministry considering that our Taxes are at present much superior to the Balance of Trade gain'd by *England*, and that no new Supply can be raised to answer their Calls, but what will soon prove defective; they have determin'd, in due Time, to take the publick Funds into their own Hands, and by this Means to enable themselves to support and carry on their several Projects and Designs, to oblige their Friends, and to be a Terror to their Enemies. This, they think, will be no Hardship upon the People in general, for they will have it in their own Power to remit some Part, that they may enjoy the rest with greater Quiet and Safety; and they presume further, that most of the Country Gentlemen, and the Landed-men, will rather be pleas'd than dissatisfy'd with this Proceeding; for it will be an Ease to their Estates, and will be a Prejudice to none, but such as have, for thirty Years past, got Estates by the Publick; and which, upon the best Computation they could make, do not exceed the Number of Forty Thousand Persons; a very trifling Number, in comparison to the whole Body of the People.

Indeed, his Majesty's Designs seem to be so extravagant, that nothing short of such a Seizure can answer all his Purposes; particularly, there is a great Sum of Money likely to be expended, in
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order to purchase the Duchy of *Mecklenburg*, even much greater than was at first propos'd ; for his Majesty was in hopes, that by giving that Duke Four Hundred Thousand Pounds, *English* Money, he would be willing to resign up his Right to the King. But that Prince could by no Means be prevail'd upon to part with his Territories, which descended to him from his Ancestors ; and therefore his Majesty has been oblig'd to expend vast Sums, to raise a Faction among his Subjects, as well as to engage the Imperial Court against him ; so that most of the *South-Sea* Gettings is already gone this Way ; and his Majesty is now, or at least will be very soon, under new Difficulties to support this Enterprize, which may perhaps at last end in an open War ; and therefore nothing short of our Funds can enable his Majesty to carry on his Affairs in this, as well as in other Instances.

We may imagine the Act of Settlement, which is by some esteem'd the *Original Contract* between King and People, will be a Bar to this Undertaking ; but if we consider, that this Act is already broke thro', in several, if not in most Articles, we cannot think his Majesty will scruple any Thing of this Nature, at this Time of Day ; especially since we find that most of his Designs, as well to advance his Interest Abroad, as to enslave us here at Home, may easily be brought to bear, even in a parliamentary Way ; for the Degeneracy of the Times is such, that a little present Profit is so powerful, as to oblige Men to forget the future Safety of themselves and their Posterity : And I have always thought, that whenever *England* is destroy'd, the principal Agents must be found out among our own People ; and there being now so little left of what we call a publick Spirit, I think

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this,

this, of all others, the most proper Juncture to compleat our Ruin.

The Designs of our Enemies are too visible to be contradicted, even by the most incredulous *Englishman*: And therefore I shall conclude with an earnest Address to my Countrymen, that they would do themselves, and their Posterity, so much Justice, as to look a little about them, to consider their present, and what is like to be their future Condition, before it is out of their own Power to save themselves. Our Ancestors have made many noble Stands in the Defence of Liberty, when the Attempts made upon it, were neither so certain, so violent, nor yet so dangerous as they appear to be at present. And shall we, the Descendants of such worthy Fathers, suffer this sacred *Depositum*, thus handed down for the common Benefit of the Generations that were to come, to be given up all at once, without any Struggle or Efforts made for its Preservation. Believe me, my Fellow-Citizens, if we permit this, we shall be reputed infamous by all succeeding Ages, as Men of no Honour, no Love, no Concern for the publick Safety. And therefore to use the Words of *Addison*,

*'Remember; O my Friends, the Laws, the Rights,
The generous Plan of Power deliver'd down,
From Age to Age, by your renown'd Fore-fathers,
(So dearly bought, the Price of so much Blood)
O let it never perish in your Hands!
But piously transmit it to your Children.
Do thou, great Liberty, inspire our Souls,
And make our Lives in thy Possession happy,
Or our Deaths glorious in thy just Defence.*

N. B. If the *Hanoverian* Ministry shall think themselves injur'd, by any Thing mention'd in these, as well as the foregoing Papers, the Author doth not doubt, but he shall be able to make out the Truth of what he hath here asserted before a Free Parliament, entirely to the Satisfaction of his Countrymen, provided the *Hanoverians* will not send to assassinate him, as they did a Gentleman in the late Reign, that made the like Offer.

F I N I S.



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